Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 11, No. 11 TORONTO, MARCH 13, 1946 $2.00 Per Annum

'Velvet' Leads Canadian Poll

'Song To Remember' Second; Crosby Again BO Leader

MGM's Technicolor motion picture with a British background, "National Velvet," distributed in Canada by Regal Films, was voted the Dominion's top boxoffice attraction in 1945 in the annual poll conducted among theatre men by the Canadian Film Weekly. They also declared Paramount's Bing Crosby to be the most popular player with their patrons for the second year in succession.

A very close second to "National Velvet" was Columbia's great Technicolor film biography of Chopin, "A Song to Remember," which brought Cornel Wilde to undisputed stardom.

Produced by Pandro S. Berman, directed by Clarence Brown and starred in by Mickey Rooney,

(Continued on Page 3)

Complete Results

The lineup of pictures and players in the Canadian Film Weekly poll appears on page 13.

TOPS 'TEN BEST'

BING CROSBY was chosen Canada's leading boxoffice star in 1945 by theatre operators across the Dominion in the Canadian Film Weekly's annual poll. In 1944 he also was the exhibitors' first choice, and in 1943 placed ninth in the "ten best" boxoffice attractions.

MacCunn Heads Mus. Protective

Angus MacCunn of Famous Players was chosen president, R. Haffey of the Hotel Association was made vice-president and John A. Cooper and E. H. Wells, secretary-treasurer and assistant secretary respectively, at the elections held during the annual

(Continued on Page 6)

Universal Has Big 1946 Schedule

A heavy production schedule is under way at Universal Pictures studios and new properties are being acquired to maintain the pace over the next year. Michael Todd's musical, "Up In Central Park," now playing in a Broadway theatre, has been pur-

(Continued on Page 6)

Rank's World Reps Meet In April

The most important sales meeting in the history of British films will take place in London, England, on April 5th. On that date the first world convention of J. Arthur Rank's top distribution executives will take place.

Teddy Carr will act as chairman. A resume of activities to date will be presented and future sales policy of expanding British interests will be discussed.

A. J. Laurie, general manager of Eagle-Lion in Canada, will fly to London.

Political Censorship By Alberta Board

Political censorship of motion pictures will be one of the major responsibilities of Alberta's censors, according to newspaper reports of a statement by the Hon. A. J. Hooke, provincial secretary, to the legislature during the recent throne speech debate.

Many complaints had been heard recently in the United States that the motion picture industry was dominated by Communistic thought, claimed the minister. "We intend to strengthen up the censorship of motion pictures to see that those (films) shown are in keeping with good democratic principles."

It is likely that the American complaints referred to by Mr. Hooke are those made in the past by such isolationist politicians as Dies, Nye and Rankin, whose charges failed to stand up under

(Continued on Page 3)

Weiss Quits As Head Of Allied Co-Op

William Weiss has announced his resignation as managing director of Allied Co-Operative Theatres, 26-theatre Independent booking and buying association with headquarters in Toronto, and has been succeeded by Ben Freedman, Long Branch, Ontario, exhibitor who is the association's president.

No reason for the separation of Weiss from Allied Co-Op was made public by either party, although he and Freedman both stated that the parting was amicable. Weiss will make public his plans for the future after a short rest.

Freedman, one of the charter members of Allied Co-Op, which was organized in September, 1945, was appointed with the unanimous consent of affiliates. "We saw no reason for going outside

(Continued on Page 3)

FPCC PROFITS ROSE IN 1945

A marked rise in the earning position of Famous Players Canadian Corporation in 1945 is shown in the annual report to shareholders, recently released. Operating profits were $5,123,790 compared with $4,772,005 for 1944. After adjustments, net profit stood at $1,594,973, compared with $1,371,625 a year earlier. After dividends, earned surplus account increased from $6,849,079 to $7,798,266.

Working capital position is improved. Current assets are $3,296,781 compared with current liabilities of $752,589, leaving working capital of $2,544,192 compared with $2,187,143.

The company is interested in 332 theatres in Canada, 265 of which it operates, the rest being handled by associates. It is interested in two theatres in St. John's, Newfoundland. Famous Players operates in 114 communities.

The Little Giant stars BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO, the NOT-SO-SUPER SALESMEN, in their biggest fun since "BUCK PRIVATES." It's a HOWLARIOUS LAUGH FEST from beginning to end. BOOK this WONDERFUL THRILL IN LAUGHTER NOW from EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS LIMITED! It's BOXOFFICE DYNAMITE!

starring

Maria MONTEZ

Robert PAIGE

SABU

Preston FOSTER

Louise ALLBRITTON

Universal Presents

Tangier

CITY OF THE SEVEN SINS!

WHERE EVERY SECRET HAS ITS PRICE

A GEORGE WAGGNER PRODUCTION

with KENT TAYLOR • J. EDWARD BROMBERG

Screenplay by M. M. Musselman and Monty F. Collins • Original Story by Alice D. G. Miller
Directed by GEORGE WAGGNER • Produced by PAUL MALVERN • Executive Producer: JOE GERSHENSON

Make That Date TO-DAY

Empire-Universal-Films Limited

MAJOR J. E. R. McDOUGALL

He organized the Canadian Army Film & Photo Unit during the war and has now returned to his movie director's post with Associated Screen News.

'National Velvet' Heads Poll

(Continued from Page 1)

"National Velvet" was one of six MGM pictures to earn places in the Ten Best poll. Altogether 11 films were rated, the voting resulting in a tie for tenth place. The industry's largest production company, headed by a former Canadian, Louis B. Mayer, retained the same prominence that it enjoyed in the 1944 voting, when it won five of 11 ratings.

Bing Crosby starred in "Here Come the Waves" and appeared in a minor role in the all-star "Duffy's Tavern," both Paramount pictures, during 1945. Runner-up in the Ten Best poll for boxoffice stars was Greer Garson, whose "Valley of Decision" won third place in the film voting. Five of the 10 stars picked by the exhibitors were from the MGM lot.

Humphrey Bogart, Bette Davis and Walter Pidgeon, who were among 1944's Ten Best, did not make it in 1945. They were succeeded by Judy Garland, Van Johnson and Ingrid Bergman.

The poll was evidence of the varied tastes of the patrons, the films chosen representing music, drama and comedy. Several were musicals while in others music played a part. The majority were in Technicolor.

There were 105 films and 96 players nominated by voters.

Due to lack of response the critics' Ten Best poll was dropped.

Buys 'Catbird'

Samuel Goldwyn has bought screen rights to "The Catbird Seat," a James Thurber story.

Political Censorship By Alberta Board

(Continued from Page 1)

official government investigation. No pictures were named by the minister as examples.

Dissatisfaction with censorship because of its severity is growing in the USA and may result in court battles. After continued attacks based on the screen's alleged contribution to juvenile delinquency, that phase has been forgotten in the battle over Walter Wanger's "Scarlet Street." Position of the censors indicates a claim to sit in judgment on adult fare and a concern with the supposed influence of the screen on adult delinquency. This point of view will meet with the most vigorous opposition from private citizens, who would oppose it in the interests of free press and radio. If the principles of pre-censorship and suppressive action is allowed, the processes of law will have been ignored. The principle being the same with the motion picture as with the press and radio, once established through practise it might easily be extended to apply to them all. The press realizes this and is supporting Wanger's battle. The whole question of the constitutionality of censorship under American law, never really tested, may eventually be determined by the present quarrel.

Both American and Canadian law has as its inspiration British law and Canada may be drawn into the battle over what is considered by many to be an infringement of the people's rights. However, "Scarlet Street" is being exhibited freely in Canada after early differences with some censors.

While the focal points of the fight over "Scarlet Street" are in Milwaukee and Atlanta where Walter Wanger and Universal, aided by the Motion Picture Association of America, are tackling bans on this picture, Howard Hughes is fighting drastic clipping of his picture "The Outlaw" in Memphis, Tennessee, and Norfolk and Richmond, Virginia. And it is known that Eric Johnston is considering early moves within the MPAA to try to put an end to such "potshot" censoring.

The situation is paralleled in Canada where the abuse of provincial censorship privileges has reached a point whereby unqualified, self-appointed "juries" can be invited to censors' screenings, while no representative is present to give the industry's view. Needless to say, no person who is opposed to censorship is invited either. Great dissatisfaction with this state of affairs has been engendered, the film trade pointing out that a number of legal minds have expressed the opinion that the setup is unconstitutional. Since the censor board exists by the grace of the industry and those who could legally oppose it, film men, who have never been opposed to a reasonable amount of censorship, express the opinion that it should operate at cost and not declare to the province the considerable profits it makes annually.

Too, to function with public support and in good faith, the board must take the responsibility upon itself of settling the questions arising out of its offices without straining its duties to the public weal to satisfy cranks, individuals who are opposed to all movies and misinformed sections of the public who have been pressuring the censors to have only the ideas of their organization permitted in motion picture entertainment.

Wanger is taking his case against Atlanta City Censor Miss Christine Smith, who banned "Scarlet Street," to the courts with the support of the city's two leading newspapers and the mayor. Injunction proceedings are being launched in the Georgia state courts and an advertising campaign of full-page ads in the newspapers will acquaint the people with the issues at stake. Wanger's case is to be fought around the general constitutionality of censorship.

"The Outlaw" was banned by the 78-year-old Memphis censor, a retired businessman, on the grounds that it showed too much gunplay. Hughes is fighting the ban on the picture and on the advertising campaign.

Film Weekly

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Entered as Second Class Matter.

WILLIAM WEISS

He has resigned as managing director of Allied Co-Operative Theatres and has been succeeded by Ben Freedman.

Weiss Leaves Allied Co-Op

(Continued from Page 1)

for a managing director," stated Bruce McCleod, vice-president, "when we considered that we had a man with the necessary ability in our ranks."

The new managing director stated that the organization was sounder than ever and that its prospects were as fine as anticipated when it was founded. "Our intention is to work in harmony with the distributors," he stated, "and to conduct our business on a fair and equitable basis."

Weiss was the first managing director of Allied Co-Op, being appointed following his resignation from Odeon Theatres of Canada, with which he held a district manager's position.

Add 'Ziegfeld' To Regal Top Group

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board has authorized Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Ziegfeld Follies of 1946" as an additional picture in the top group to be distributed by Regal Films this year, according to an announcement by J. R. Croft, administrator of services.

No exhibitor holding a basic contract for MGM product, as defined in order A-398, is required to pay more for this feature than he paid for the top group under his basic contract.

Regal Films may negotiate with exhibitors for the rental of this picture at higher than basic contract rentals upon a mutually satisfactory basis, Croft said.

FOUR TERROR-RIDDEN HOURS!

DANCE-HALL HOSTESS, GOB ON SHORE LEAVE...

Fate points the finger of suspicion . . . and one evening of innocent fun turns into a nightmare of MURDER!

(The sergeant of
"THOSE ENDEARIN
YOUNG CHARMS

BIG NATIONAL MAGAZINE COVERAGE!

Full pages in magazines totalling 19,063,367 CIRCULATION... SATURDAY EVENING POST—LIBERTY—LOOK — PIC — TIME — TRUE — INSIDE DETECTIVE — FRONT PAGE DETECTIVE — TRUE DETECTIVE — MASTER DETECTIVE—OFFICIAL DETECTIVE STORIES and FAN LIST.

IT'S ANOTHER
RKO MONEY MELODRAMA!

Susan HAYWARD • Paul LUKAS

Bill WILLIAMS

DEADLINE AT DAWN

RKO RADIO PICTURES

JOSEPH CALLEIA • OSA MASSEN • LOLA LANE • JEROME COWAN

Produced by ADRIAN SCOTT • Directed by HAROLD CLURMAN • Screen Play by CLIFFORD ODETS

Universal Has Big 1946 Schedule

(Continued from Page 1)

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The stage play "Mexican Hayride," has also been purchased for the studio's comic team, Abbott and Costello.

The company also has borrowed Lucille Ball from MGM for the co-starring role of George Brent's wife in the Michael Fessier-Ernest Pagano comedy, "Lessons in Love." William Seiter will direct. Charles Winninger, Elisabeth Risdon and Wallace Ford have been signed for supporting roles in this comedy.

In circulation in Canada now are "Because of Him," with Deanna Durbin, Charles Laughton and Franchot Tone; and "Scarlet Street," with Edward G. Robinson, Joan Bennett and Dan Duryea. And ready for release are: "Tangier," with Maria Montez, Robert Paige, Sabu, Preston Foster and Louise Allbritton; "The House of Dracula," with Lon Chaney and Lionel Atwill; "The Little Giant," an Abbott and Costello starrer; and "So Goes My Love," with Myrna Loy and Don Ameche.

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A new romantic team has been created with the pairing of Alan Curtis and Ann Rutherford for the Universal comedy-drama, "Inside Job." Jean Yarborough, whose option has been picked up, will be producer-director.

Going into production, too, this month is "Three Kids and A Queen," in which seven-year-old Beverly Simmons, the screen find who made such a decisive hit in "Frontier Gal," will be given a starring role. Mary Morris, last seen in "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," will have a prominent role in the picture.

Can We Merge?

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Ahead of Himself

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Up and Down

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Fitz—'He Liked Old Movies'

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"As a child, he was adopted by the people who operated the movie house in Meriden, Connecticut. Later he went to work as a projectionist in the theatre. In this work he saw the movies progress from their earliest jerky stages to the (for that day) sensational 'Great Train Robbery.'

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"In those early years he moved about from place to place showing movies. The pictures which stand out in his mind were two French films. One was titled 'The Struggle For Life' and the other 'The Dreyfus Case.'

"More 'story' came into films about 1916-17 with a nifty number titled 'The Prisoner of Zenda,' starring James K. Hackett.

"On the dramatic side he has a soft spot for 'Male and Female,' starring Gloria Swanson and a tear-jerker, labelled 'The Old Homestead,' which sent the good ladies of that day homeward red-eyed with weeping over the fate of Little Nell.

" 'Nanook Of The North' and 'Down To The Sea In Ships' were early documentaries that Mr. Fitzgibbons rates tops.

"In the future, he sees many of the old-time 'great' movies being remade in the modern manner and believes that such a picture as 'The Ten Commandments' would be powerful entertainment if done again."

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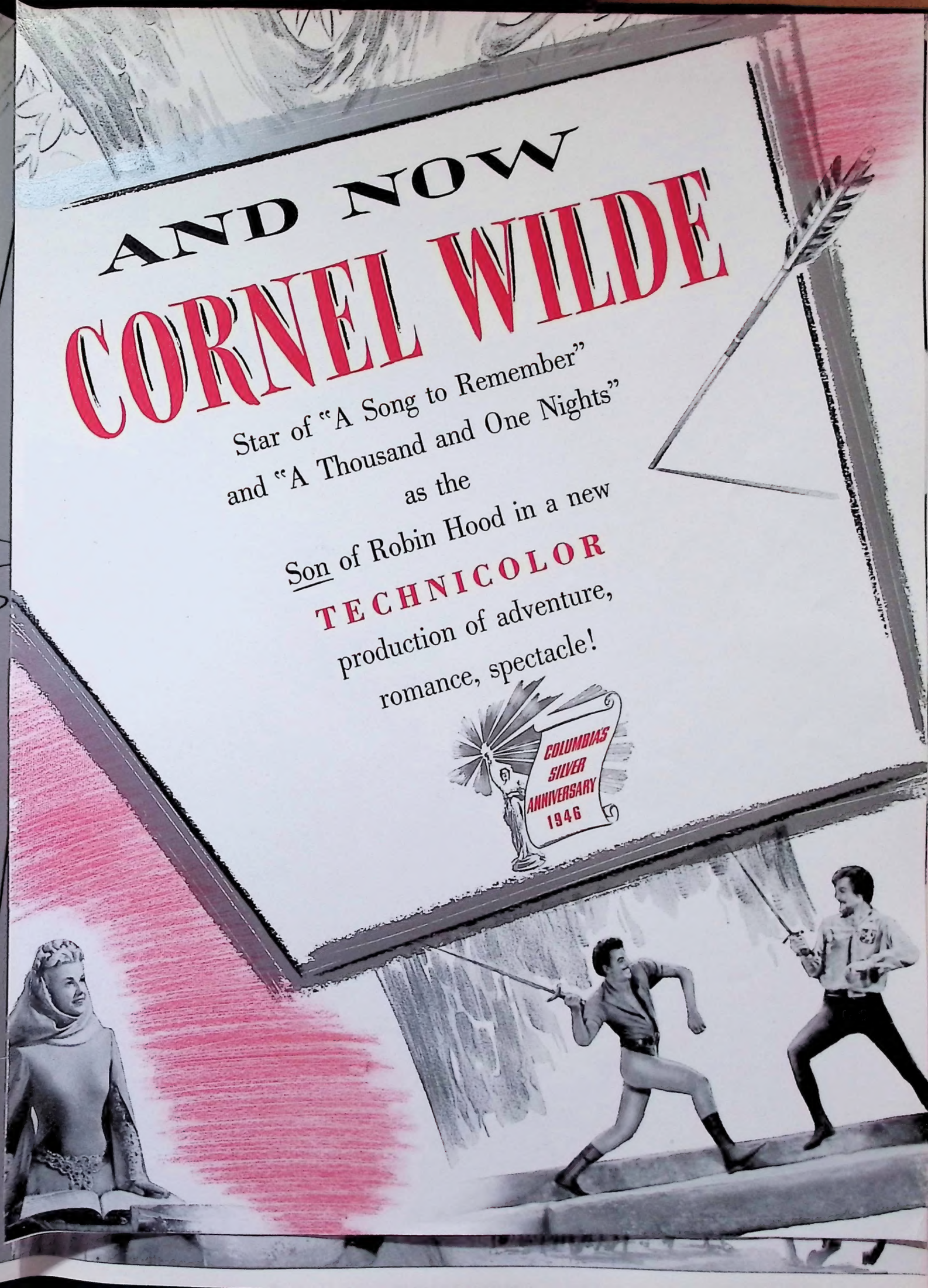
AND NOW
CORNEL WILDE

Star of "A Song to Remember"
and "A Thousand and One Nights"
as the
Son of Robin Hood in a new
TECHNICOLOR
production of adventure,
romance, spectacle!

COLUMBIA'S
SILVER
ANNIVERSARY
1946



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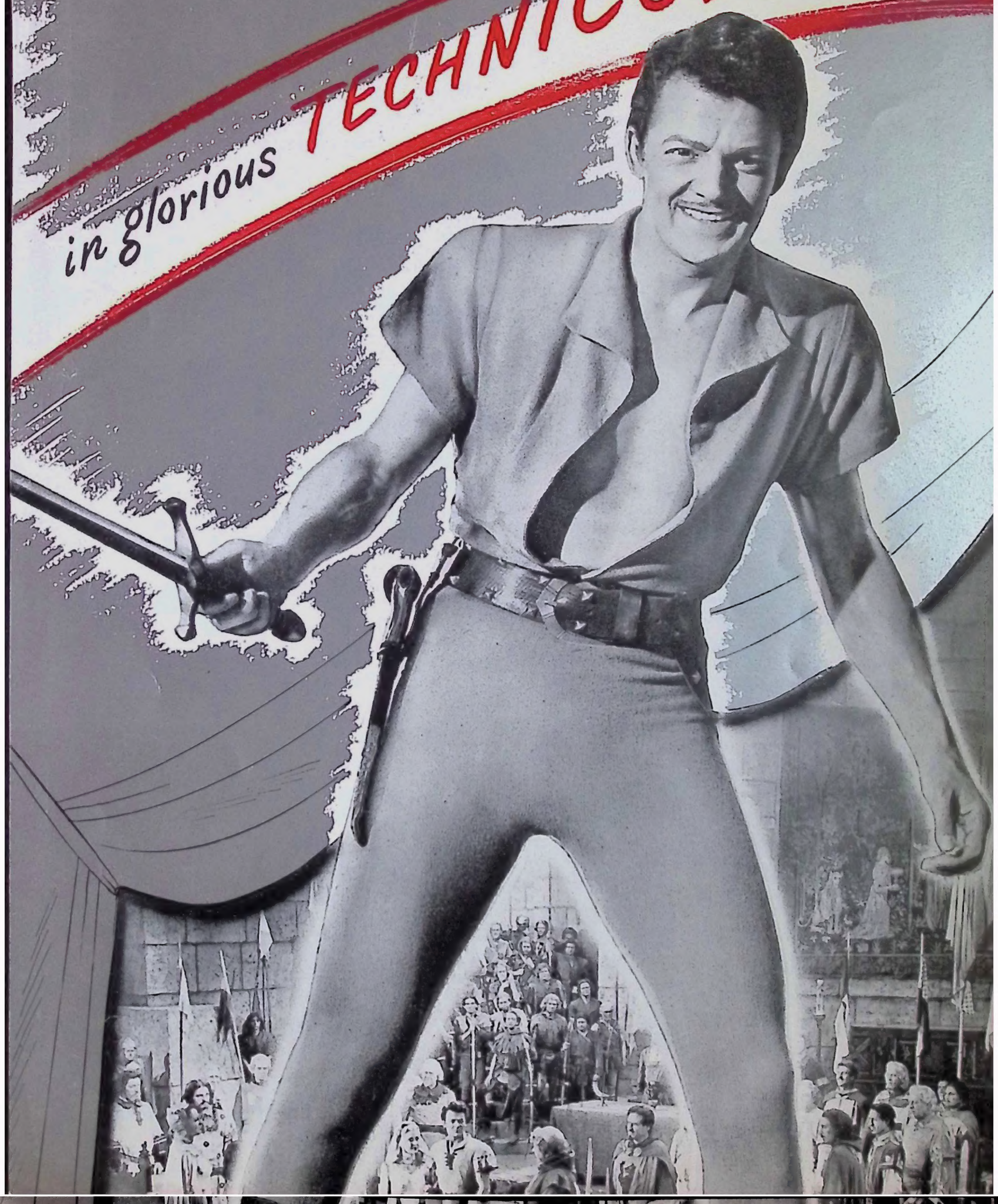
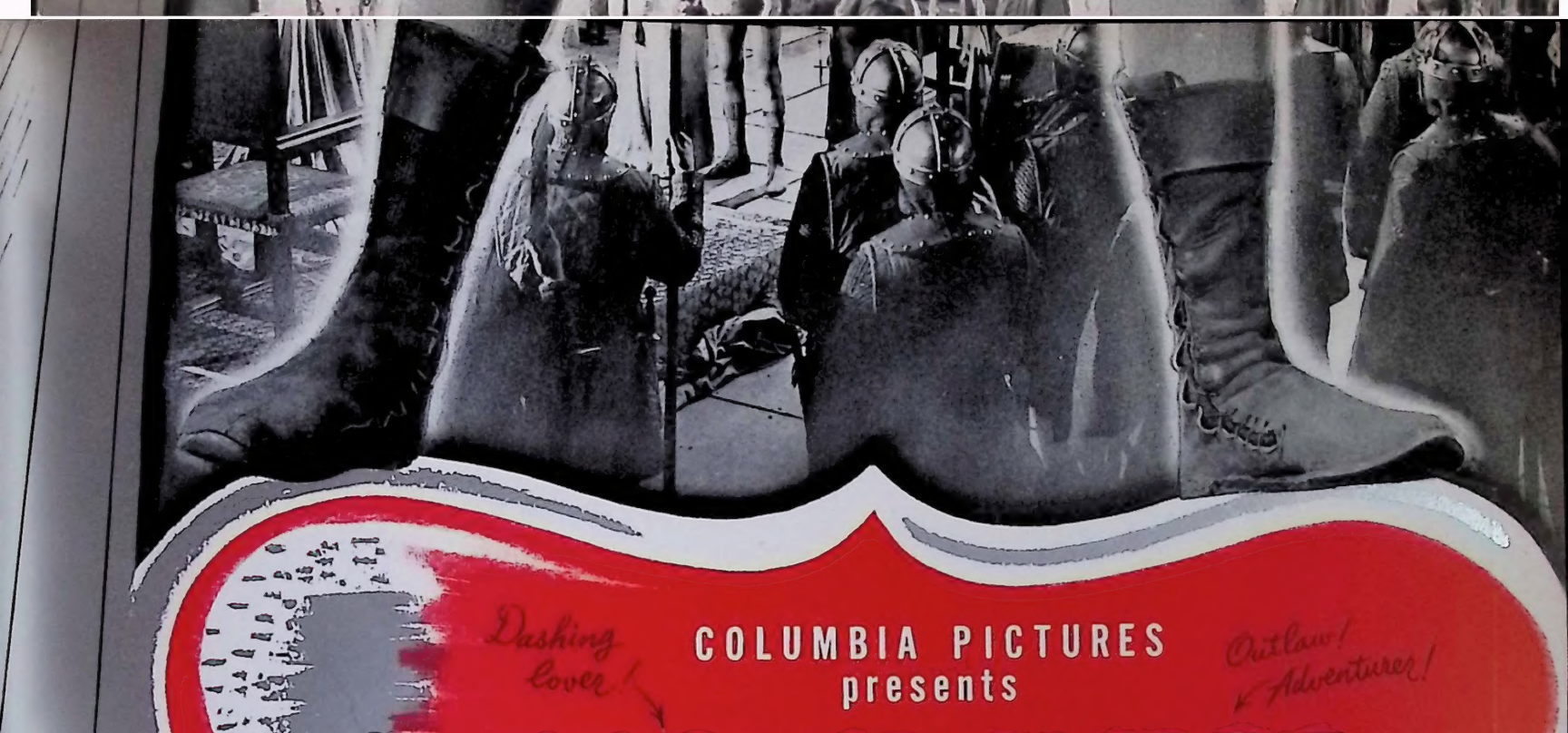
in glorious TECHNICOLOR!





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presents

Outlaw! Adventurer!

CORNEL WILDE

IN

The BANDIT of SHERWOOD FOREST

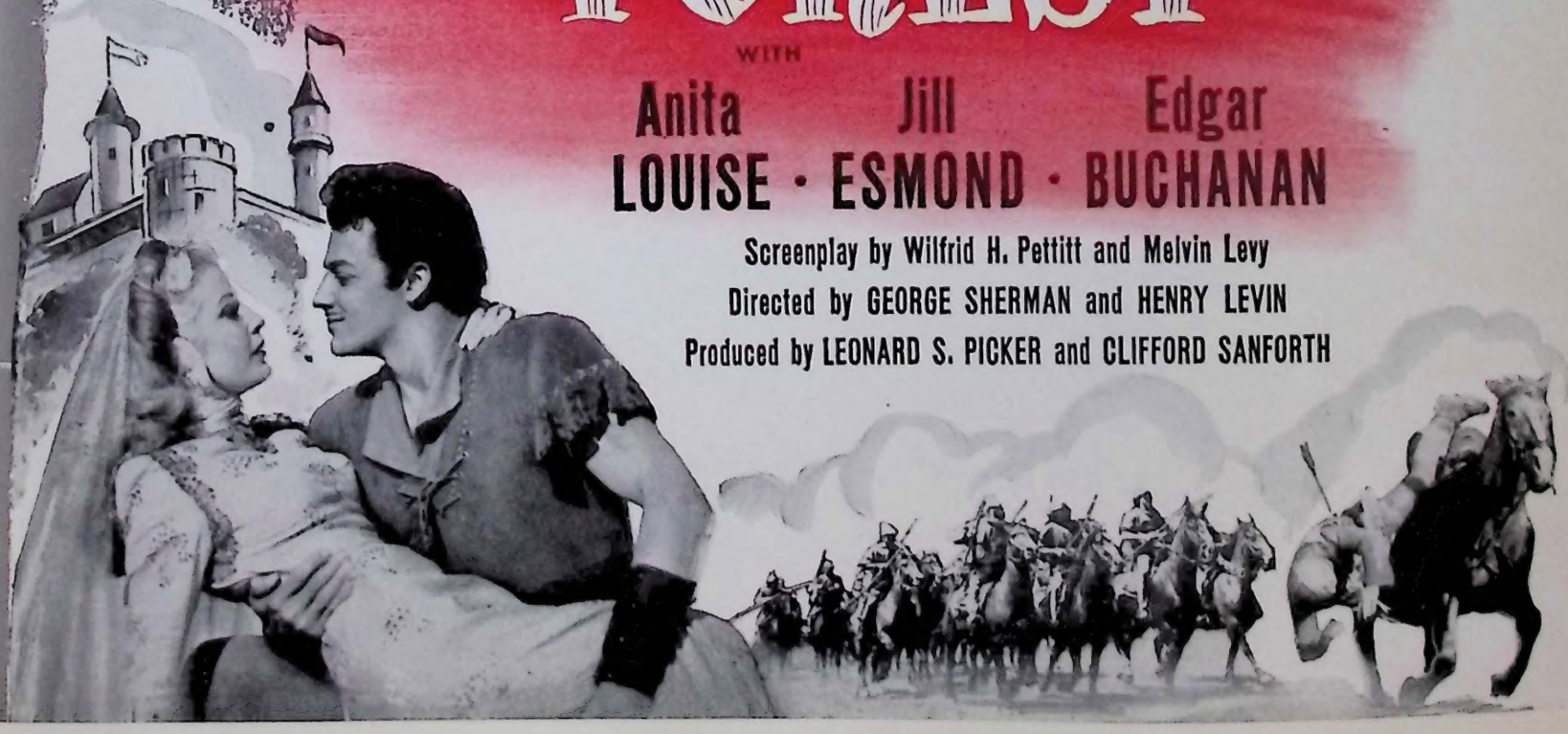
WITH

Anita LOUISE · Jill ESMOND · Edgar BUCHANAN

Screenplay by Wilfrid H. Pettitt and Melvin Levy

Directed by GEORGE SHERMAN and HENRY LEVIN

Produced by LEONARD S. PICKER and CLIFFORD SANFORTH



AND SU

RITA HAYWORTH
as
GILDA

There NEVER was a woman like Gilda!

COLUMBIA PICTURES

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THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 11, No. 11 TORONTO, MARCH 6, 1946 $2.00 Per Annum

Tokyo Rose

with Byron Barr, Osa Massen, Don Douglas, Richard Loo, Lotus Long

Paramount 69 Mins.

SWELL EXPLOITATION FEATURE MARKED BY GOOD ACTING, DIRECTION AND PRODUCTION.

Here's an exploitation offering that is marked by good acting, direction and production. It was produced by William Pine and William Thomas, with Lew Landers handling the direction.

Lotus Long enacts the title role, and although she is not seen until the final scenes, her intriguing voice is used to good advantage in the earlier footage. Byron Barr, Osa Massen, Don Douglas, Richard Loo, Keye Luke, Larry Young and H. T. Tsiang are effective in important roles.

Byron Barr, an American infantryman in the Pacific, sees his buddy break under Tokyo Rose's propaganda and kill himself. Barr swears to avenge his friend by killing Rose.

Barr and several of his fellow soldiers are captured and imprisoned by the Japs. When a visiting neutral newspaperman is killed in a bombing, Barr takes his clothes and credentials and escapes.

Through the aid of Don Douglas, another neutral war correspondent, and Keye Luke, an underground worker, Barr captures Rose. She is slain when she tries to escape from him and he flees to safety on an American submarine.

CAST: Byron Barr, Osa Massen, Don Douglas, Richard Loo, Keye Luke, Grace Lem, Leslie Fong, H. T. Tsiang, Larry Young, William Challee, Chris Drake, James Milliken, Al Ruiz, Blake Edwards and Lotus Long.

CREDITS: Producers, William Pine and William Thomas; Director, Lew Landers; Author, Whitman Chambers; Screenplay, Geoffrey Homes and Maxwell Shane.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

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SheWouldn't Say Yes

with Rosalind Russell, Lee Bowman

Columbia 87 Mins.

CAST OF ABLE PLAYERS AND ADROIT DIRECTION COMBINE TO PROVIDE FAST MOVING COMEDY.

Lee Bowman's efforts to get Rosalind Russell to say "yes" to his proposal of marriage provide the material for this comedy. The Virginia Van Upp-John Jacoby-Sarett Tobias screenplay is based on a Laslo Gorog-William Thiele story, basically not too new.

In his direction, Alexander Hall has given the footage a swiftness of pace that helps to camouflage some of the story's weaknesses.

Miss Russell plays a woman psychiatrist determined to keep love out of her life because she has seen the havoc it can sometimes cause. Into her consciousness, comes Bowman, a soldier, who goes to work trying to change her attitude. He has the assistance of Charles Winninger, her father, in accomplishing his mission. The story is full of complications devised to promote laughter.

Miss Russell gets her best support from Bowman, Winninger, Percy Kilbride, Harry Davenport and Adele Jergens, playing a blonde who adds to Bowman's headaches.

CAST: Rosalind Russell, Lee Bowman, Adele Jergens, Charles Winninger, Harry Davenport, Sara Haden, Percy Kilbride, Lewis Russell, Mary Treen, Mabel Paige, George Cleveland, Charles Arnt, Almira Sessions.

CREDITS: Producer, Virginia Van Upp; Assistant to Producer, Norman Deming; Director, Alexander Hall; Screenplay, Virginia Van Upp, John Jacoby, Sarett Tobias; Based on story by Laslo Gorog, William Thiele.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

McDougall Returns To Screen News

Major J. E. R. McDougall of Montreal, a film director with Associated Screen News before the war and who organized the Canadian Army Film and Photo Unit in 1941, has retired from the army to return to civil life.

Major McDougall went overseas with the Black Watch (RHR) of Canada, and was later called on to form the film unit which would cover Canadian troop activities. Under him the unit grew from two or three men to a large organization which followed Canadian troops wherever they went, photographing them in battle and at rest.

Pardon My Past

with Fred MacMurray, Marguerite Chapman

Columbia 88 Mins.

TOP-NOTCH CAST ASSEMBLED IN A MILD FARCE BUILT ON "DUAL ROLE" COMEDY SITUATIONS.

The customers will get a bang out of the comedy situations in this one directed by Leslie Fenton who also gets credit for being the producer. Fred MacMurray is suitably fitted into a tailor-made screenplay which has him playing a dual role as a twin who was separated from his brother at birth, each receiving a different name from the families who adopted them. His "double-takes" and mugging are top-notch. William Demarest and Akim Tamiroff are well-contrasted to balance off the comedy support.

The story has one of Tamiroff's henchmen mistaking MacMurray for his wealthy twin brother, supposed to be on a trip to Mexico. Mac and his pal, William Demarest, who plan to start a mink farm with their Army savings, are forced to go to Akim's home after donning civvies. Tamiroff, a well-to-do horse bookie who has a keen appreciation of first editions, thinks Mac is welching on a $12,000 debt when he claims to be someone else, and gives him until the following day to make good. Tamiroff takes Mac's wallet containing the money meant for the mink farm as collateral.

The fun really gets under way when Mac goes to the home of the twin he doesn't know about, and attempts to carry on the masquerade with the household so that he can find a way of clearing the debt and getting his wallet back.

Not only does he achieve his purpose but he succeeds in falling in love with Marguerite Chapman; straightens his meek brother out with his wife, Rita Johnson; exposes the crooked antics of uncle Douglas Dumbrille; and gets a pair of live minks as a gift from Tamiroff for having caused all the trouble.

CAST: Fred MacMurray, Marguerite Chapman, Akim Tamiroff, William Demarest, Rita Johnson, Douglas Dumbrille, Karolyn Grimes, Dewey Robinson, Hugh Prosser, Tom Moffatt, Herbert Evans, Frank Morgan, George Chandler, Charles Arnt.

CREDITS: Producer, Leslie Fenton; Director, Leslie Fenton; Screenplay, Earl Felton and Karl Lamb; Original story, Patterson McNutt and Harlan Ware; Assistant Director, Robert Aldrich; Cameraman, Russell Metty.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Cornered

with Dick Powell, Walter Slezak, Micheline Cheirel, Nina Vale

RKO 102 Mins.

GRIPPING DRAMA ADMIRABLY PRODUCED, DIRECTED AND PLAYED SIZES UP AS BOXOFFICE MAGNET.

This offering rates an "A" in every department. It has a hard-hitting, dramatic performance by its star, Dick Powell, and also introduces stage actor, Luther Adler, who provides a powerful characterization. Walter Slezak is outstanding in a featured role, while Morris Carnovsky, Micheline Cheirel, Nina Vale, Edgar Barrier, Steven Geray and Gregory Gay are among those whose acting is praiseworthy.

Edward Dmytryk, who directed Powell in his first dramatic role in "Murder My Sweet," has again furnished a masterly job of direction, keeping the suspense sustained to the end. Adrian Scott, who produced "Murder My Sweet," rates praise for his handling of the production chores on "Cornered." John Paxton fashioned a gripping screenplay, based on John Wexley's story.

Powell, a Canadian flyer, is determined to find the Vichy leader who caused the death of his young bride and others in France. His trail leads to Buenos Aires.

Powell meets Walter Slezak, who poses as a native guide. He also meets Morris Carnovsky, Edgar Barrier and Jack LaRue, who prove to be staunch friends.

Powell is led into a trap by Slezak and is confronted by Luther Adler, the mysterious, supposedly dead Vichy leader. In the fight that ensues, Powell slays Adler.

CAST: Dick Powell, Walter Slezak, Micheline Cheirel, Nina Vale, Morris Carnovsky, Edgar Barrier, Steven Geray, Jack LaRue, Gregory Gay, Luther Adler.

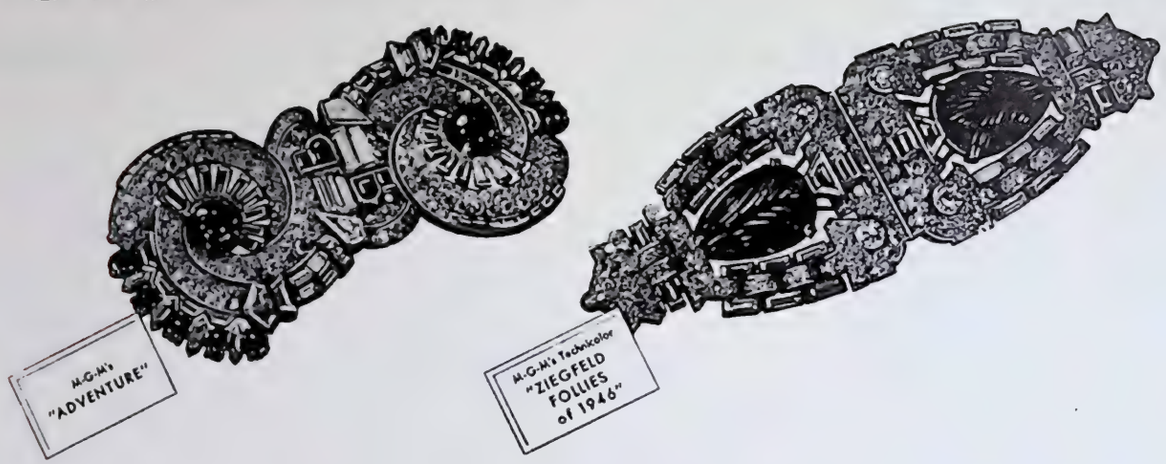
CREDITS: Producer, Adrian Scott; Director, Edward Dmytryk; Author, John Wexley; Screenplay, John Paxton.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Splendid.

New Members Join Managers' Group

New members to join the Niagara Peninsula Theatre Managers' Association at its last meeting were Clarence Jeffries, Capitol; Ralph Tiede, Community; and Wilton Swadron, Park, all of Welland; and Wilton LaRose, Hollywood; Jack Ward, Seneca; and Wonny Tyers, Capitol, all of Niagara Falls. Invitations have been sent to all theatre managers in the vicinity.

THE PROPER SETTING FOR DIAMONDS!



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★

Studio Score

Canadian 1945 Exhibitors' Poll

10 BEST FILMS

MGM 6

National Velvet
Valley of Decision
Son of Lassie
Meet Me in St. Louis
Anchors Aweigh
Thrill of a Romance

20TH-FOX 3

Thunderhead, Son of Flicka
Song of Bernadette
State Fair

COLUMBIA ... 1

A Song to Remember

WARNERS 1

Hollywood Canteen

(Eleven pictures are rated here because of ties)

MICKEY ROONEY

Star of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "National Velvet," which placed first in the Canadian Film Weekly's annual boxoffice poll of theatre operators across Canada. He has just returned from army service overseas.

★

CANADIAN *Exhibitors' Poll*

Ten Best Boxoffice Films of 1945

(1) NATIONAL VELVET.....MGM

Produced in Technicolor by Pandro S. Berman. Directed by Clarence Brown. With Mickey Rooney, Donald Crisp, Elizabeth Taylor, Anne Revere, Angela Lansbury, Jackie Jenkins, Juanita Quigley, Arthur Treacher, Reginald Owen.

(2) A SONG TO REMEMBER .....Columbia

Produced in Technicolor by Louis F. Edelman. Directed by Charles Vidor. With Paul Muni, Merle Oberon, Cornel Wilde, Nina Foch, Stephen Bekassy, George Coulouris, Sig Arno, Howard Freeman.

(3) VALLEY OF DECISION.....MGM

Produced by Edwin H. Knopf. Directed by Tay Garnett. With Greer Garson, Gregory Peck, Donald Crisp, Lionel Barrymore, Preston Foster, Marsha Hunt, Gladys Cooper, Reginald Owen, Dan Duryea and Jessica Tandy.

(4) SON OF LASSIE.....MGM

Produced in Technicolor by Samuel Marx. Directed by S. Sylvan Simon. With Donald Crisp, Nigel Bruce, Peter Lawford, June Lockhart, William Severn, Leon Ames, Nils Asther and Lassie and Laddie.

(5) MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS.....MGM

Produced in Technicolor by Arthur Freed. Directed by Vincente Minelli. With Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Lucille Bremer, Tom Drake, Marjorie Main, Leon Ames, Harry Davenport, June Lockhart, Henry H. Daniels, Jr., Joan Carrol, Chill Wills.

(6) THUNDERHEAD, SON OF FLICKA.....20TH-FOX

Produced in Technicolor by Robert Bassler. Directed by Louis King. With Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster, Diana Hale, Rita Johnson, James Bell, Carleton Young and Ralph Sanford.

(7) HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN .....Warners

Produced by Alex Gottlieb. Directed by Delmer Daves. With Jack Benny, Joe E. Brown, Eddie Cantor, Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, John Garfield, Barbara Stanwyck and a large cast.

(8) ANCHORS AWEIGH.....MGM

Produced in Technicolor by Joe Pasternack. Directed by George Sidney. With Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson, Gene Kelly, Jose Iturbi, Dean Stockwell, Pamela Britton and "Rags" Ragland.

(9) THRILL OF A ROMANCE.....MGM

Produced in Technicolor by Joe Pasternack. Directed by Richard Thorpe. With Van Johnson, Esther Williams, Frances Gifford, Henry Travers, Lauritz Melchior, Spring Byington, Carleton Young, Vince Barnett and Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra.

Tied for Tenth Place

(x) SONG OF BERNADETTE 20th-Fox

Produced by William Perlberg. Directed by Henry King. With Jennifer Jones, William Eythe, Charles Bickford, Vincent Price, Lee J. Cobb, Gladys Cooper, Anne Revere, Roman Bohnen, Patricia Morison and Blanche Yurka.

(x) STATE FAIR.....20th-FOX

Produced in Technicolor by William Perlberg. Directed by Walter Lang. With Jeanne Crain, Dick Haymes, Dana Andrews, Vivian Blaine, Charles Winninger, Fay Bainter, Donald Meek, Frank McHugh and Percy Kilbride.

★

★

Canadian 1945

Exhibitors' Boxoffice Poll

10 BEST STARS

(1)
Bing Crosby

(2)
Greer Garson

(3)
Van Johnson

(4)
Margaret O'Brien

(5)
Betty Grable

(6)
Bob Hope

(7)
Ingrid Bergman

(8)
Gary Cooper

(9)
Spencer Tracy

(10)
Judy Garland

★

Broadcast Licenses Granted Seven

Seven licenses to operate broadcasting stations were granted by the Transport Department last week. They are: Dawson City, 100 watts; Winnipeg, 250 watts; Sudbury, 1,000 watts; Ottawa, 1,000 watts; Verdun, Que., 1,000 watts (day time only); Oshawa, Ont., 100 watts; Riviere du Loup, Que., 250 watts.

Court Gives Indie Large Damages

The United States Supreme Court recently ended the now-famous Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, case by ruling in favor of the collection of $360,000 in damages by the plaintiffs, Independent operators, from the major distributors, alleged to have been working in combination with B & K and Warners circuits.

The case had been won and lost several times in the lower courts.

Chicago Independents, it was pointed out by Chief Justice Harlan Stone in delivering the majority opinion, were prevented by conspiracy from getting early runs. The distributors did not oppose the earlier verdict that found evidence of conspiracy, he wrote, so "the sole question for decision here is whether the evidence of damage is sufficient." The Supreme Court found that it was.

Jackson Park Theatre lawyers introduced a comparison of its earnings over a five-year period with those of the Maryland, a circuit house of like size, in establishing its claim for damages. Jackson Park Theatre, though superior in location, equipment and attractiveness, had net receipts $115,982 behind those of the Maryland because the latter house, under the discriminatory release system, played pictures one week ahead.

Other computations showed receipts of Jackson Park affected because of the unfair release system maintained in Chicago by those sued.

It was the first time that such a case had reached the Supreme Court.

Nearest thing to a Canadian parallel of the Jackson Park case was when the Kent Theatre, operated at the time by Jules Laine and Ben Garson, went to court in 1944 against United Amusements and Warners to upset the allegedly discriminatory release system in Montreal because the Kent's opposition, the Snowden, was favored.

The Kent claimed damages and charged that practices illegal under the Combines Act and the Criminal Code were being employed. The defendants claimed the matter belonged under the Wartime Prices and Trade Board's jurisdiction. After several favorable and unfavorable decisions, the matter went to the Superior Court of Quebec, which ruled it to be for the WPTB.

Garson and Laine sold their theatres to Odeon Theatres of Canada and that company did not pursue the matter.

New York U's Award for 'Rebecca'

A special citation is presented to Neil Agnew (right), president of Vanguard Films, Inc., by Harold O. Voorhis (centre), vice-chancellor and secretary of New York University, for the David O. Selznick production "Rebecca" as a classic of suspense. Professor Robert Gessner (left), head of the motion picture department of the university, also attended the ceremony held in the university auditorium to mark the establishment of the New York University's Library of Motion Pictures.

Jugoslav Award

Stirling Hayden has been decorated with the Order of Merit of the People by the Jugoslav Embassy in the USA for gun-running to the partisans.

Capra Sues

Frank Capra, famous film director, is suing Columbia Pictures Corp., asking 25 per cent of the profits, which he estimated at $2,000,000, for the film "A Song to Remember."

Fidler In Suit

Walter Wanger, executive vice-president of Diana Productions, is suing Jimmie Fidler, radio movie commentator, for $1,000,000 for remarks Fidler made about "Scarlet Street."

Twentieth Century Theatre Changes

John Strickland has been transferred from the Manor Theatre, Toronto, to the Family Theatre as manager, Twentieth Century Theatres announces. Martin White, just returned from the armed forces, was previously manager at the Community Theatre, Welland, and has now been appointed manager at the Manor Theatre.

Another In Ottawa

A permit to construct a theatre on Wellington Street at the corner of Hamilton Avenue, Ottawa, at a cost of $85,000, has been issued to Zumar Brothers The two-story building will also contain one or two stores, and will be completed in September.

Language Critics Vote 'Bests'

Leo McCarey's "The Bells of St. Mary's" was named the best motion picture of 1945 by members of the Foreign Language Press Film Critics' Circle of New York, William Edlin, editor of the Jewish "Day" and chairman of the circle, announces. Miss Bergman won the accolade as the best actress for her work in the McCarey film and in "Spellbound" and "Saratoga Trunk."

Other actors honored were Ray Milland, for his work in "The Lost Weekend," J. Carroll Naish for his role in "A Medal for Benny," and Butch Jenkins and Margaret O'Brien as the best juvenile actors. Producers and directors receiving awards were Alfred Hitchcock, Billy Wilder, Leo McCarey and Charles Brackett for "Spellbound," "Bells of St. Mary's" and "The Lost Weekend."

John Flinn Dies; Was Pioneer

Executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers since 1942 and a motion picture executive for 31 years, John Cunningham Flinn died in New York last week of complications following a major operation. He was 58 years of age.

He began in the motion picture industry as publicity manager for the Jesse L. Lasky Feature Play Company when it was producing Geraldine Farrar's "Carmen." He was next with Famous Players - Lasky Corporation as advertising and publicity manager.

In 1925 Flinn left to accept the vice-presidency in charge of advertising and publicity of the W. W. Hodginson Corporation and subsequently became vice-president and general manager of Producers' Distributing Corporation. He was, too, president and a director of the Metropolitan Picture Corporation, vice-president and a director of the Cinema Corporation of America and a director of the Cecil B. De Mille Pictures Corporation.

When Producers' Distributing Corporation and Pathe Sound Studio Corporation merged, Flinn became vice-president of the combined organizations.

From 1933 until 1935 Flinn was executive secretary for the code authority for the motion picture industry under the NRA.

Second Crosby Pic

First picture to be produced by Crosby Producers, Inc., since "The Great John L." is "Abie's Irish Rose," which United Artists will release.

More Robberies

A safe which contained $210, a revolver and some tickets was stolen from Jack Hunter's Queen's Theatre, Hamilton, last week. A rear exit door had been forced to give the thieves entry. The day previous thieves had broken into Hunter's Delta Theatre but were frightened away before they stole anything.

Odeon Tenders Will Be Called Soon

It is expected that tenders will be called soon for the construction of the $500,000 theatre and administration building for Odeon Theatres of Canada, to be erected on Carlton Street, Toronto, east of the Maple Leaf Gardens. Working plans are now being completed by Jay I. English, head of Odeon's engineering and maintenance division.

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